

PROCLAMATION

BY THE

Governor of the State of Texas

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto House Bill No. 1518 as passed by the Seventy-Eighth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

House Bill No. 1518 would require the review of the Texas Education Agency's dropout data definitions by the Comptroller of Public Accounts, the State Auditor and the Legislative Budget Board. However, I am signing Senate Bill No. 186, which will require the Texas Education Agency to use the federal dropout definitions adopted by the National Center for Education Statistics. Senate Bill No. 186 removes all state agency discretion regarding the adoption of dropout definitions for use in the state's education accountability system, eliminating the need for a review of the state's dropout definitions.

The bill also seeks to grant mandate relief to school districts relating to compensatory education funding audits. However, I have signed House Bill No. 3459 and Senate Bill No. 894 to provide greater opportunities for relief from compensatory education audits by exempting school districts that succeed in improving the performance of students at-risk of dropping out of school. The approach taken by these bills is consistent with my desire to provide mandate relief to school districts and my High School Completion Initiative's goal of ensuring that students do not drop out on life by dropping out of school.

Since the Legislature by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 20th day of June, 2003.

Rick Perry
RICK PERRY
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

Gwyn Shea
GWYN SHEA
Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
7:30 PM O'CLOCK

JUN 20 2003